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DE RUEHAK #1972 3190800
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 140800Z NOV 08
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7997
INFO RUEHAD/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI PRIORITY 0354
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 0360
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY 4290
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 0297
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 1041
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 0118
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 3269
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 0486
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 0274
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 5459
RUEHRH/AMEMBASSY RIYADH PRIORITY 0648
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 6715
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 1000
RUEHIT/AMCONSUL ISTANBUL PRIORITY 5008
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 3397
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 6828
RUEUITH/ODC ANKARA TU PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 001972

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EUR/SE, SCA/PB

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TAGS: PREL PTER ECON EAID AF PK TU

SUBJECT: FRIENDS OF PAKISTAN: TURKEY TO FOCUS ON
DEVELOPMENT AND SECURITY; TRILATERAL SUMMIT DECEMBER 5

REF: A. SECSTATE 119783

¶B. ANKARA 1917

¶C. ANKARA 1970 (NOTAL)

Classified By: Acting POL Counselor Chris Krafft, reasons 1.4 (b,d)

¶11. (C) We conveyed ref A points on the "Friends of Pakistan" meeting in Abu Dhabi to MFA South Asia Section Head Emre Karagol November 13. Karagol, who will accompany MFA DG for South Asia and Iran Huseyin Dirioz to the November 17 meeting, told us Turkey plans to concentrate on the security and development components of the proposed plan of work; it will not get too involved in energy or institution building.

¶12. (C) As reported in ref B, Turkey has proposed or is undertaking a number of diplomatic, developmental and other actions to help improve security in Pakistan, particularly along the border region with Afghanistan. On October 30, PM Erdogan hosted a trilateral meeting in Istanbul between Afghan President Karzai and Pakistani PM Gillani where the three sides reaffirmed their support for the trilateral Ankara process in a Joint Declaration, expanding the scope of cooperation to include security, as well as stability and economic cooperation. MFA DDG for South Asia and Iran Babur Hizlan told us separately November 13 the Afghan and Pakistani sides appear to have agreed to December 5 for a second presidential-level trilateral summit in Istanbul.
(NOTE: This date has slipped before. END NOTE.)

¶13. (C) Karagol said he believes Turkey, which enjoys strong military-military relations with Pakistan, could help build the anti-terrorist capacity of Pakistan's armed forces (note ref C). Turkey proposed to Pakistani CHOD GEN Kayani, during his November 5 visit to Ankara, that Pakistan and Turkey include Afghan officers in upcoming joint military exercises; we do not yet know how Kayani responded. On the development side, a key element of the Ankara process is the "Istanbul Forum," established in October 2007 by the Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (TOBB) to foster cooperation between the national chambers of commerce and industry of

Afghanistan and Pakistan. This program is modeled on TOBB's "Ankara Forum" process for Israel and Palestine, an initiative that led to the creation of an industrial development zone in the Gaza Strip. TOBB has been active in promoting the forum and working to identify joint projects, hosting a number of meetings with its Pakistani and Afghan counterparts, but poor security and limited Turkish industry experience operating in the border region have hindered the initiative. The Turks have looked to us to help create a framework for regional economic cooperation through our Reconstruction Opportunity Zone (ROZ) proposal. The GOT and TOBB believe Turkish industry, which has considerable experience doing business in Central Asia and Afghanistan, could be well-placed to take advantage of the ROZs and help create employment in the region, if the legislation is approved by Congress.

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WILSON